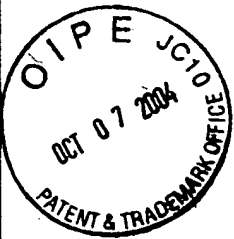


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**RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 2661**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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OCT 13 2004

In re the Application of:

Mohan KALKUNTE et al.

Art Unit: 2661

Technology Center 2600

Application No.: 09/577,012

Examiner: Andrew W. Wahba

Filed: May 24, 2000

Attorney Dkt. No.: 58268.09017

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR DISTRIBUTING A LOAD ACROSS A
TRUNK GROUP

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

October 7, 2004

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated August 3, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as set forth below.

Amendments to the claims are submitted on page 2.

Remarks are submitted on page 11.